

AN ENGLISH VILLAGE

FROYLE, HAMPSHIRE - 1

On the course of the Pilgrim's Way between Farnham and Alton, Froyle is a typical community of yeoman farmers who prospered with wheat and hops in the eighteenth century

North-East Hampshire is one of those pleasant regions that events and people have generally passed by, for it contains little to divert them from the highways which conveniently define it ; the London - Winchester road via Farnham (the "Pilgrims' Way") ; the Farnham - Odiham - Basingstoke road ; and the Roman road from Winchester to Silchester and Basingstoke. The parish of Froyle, off the first of these, between Farnham and Alton, is typical of this triangle of chalk plateau : open arable upland, lying between the 400ft and 600ft contours, in places rising to over 700ft., with hanging beechwoods and wide views and remote little villages. A peaceful, uneventful countryside even now, when its gentle downs are again great sweeps of light brown plough, golden in summer streaked with the dark green of the beech-hangers against far blue distances.

The characteristic architecture of these uplands is Georgian, innumerable neat little brick farmhouses, the larger ones standing on their acres, the smaller grouped into communities, but almost all of them added to, or re-fronting, humbler, earlier dwellings of timber framing filled with lath and plaster, flint, clunch or sometimes brick. This regional architecture, betokening widespread prosperity in the eighteenth century, is seen at its richest and most concentrated in Farnham itself, but most of the villages have their Georgian yeomen's homes - for such they evidently are - and Froyle has more than most. The reason perhaps is that Froyle lies along the junction of the Chalk with the Lower Greensand, and so comes onto the edge of the Farnham hop - growing island. This gave the Froyle yeomen a double source of wealth, corn on the downs north of the village, hops in the clay land bordering the Wey, so that they shared in the prosperity that made Georgian Farnham.

The village's geological position, strung out along the Chalk - Greensand divide, is well seen looking south from one of the downland spurs which make the hinterland of Froyle a succession of broad arable combes. The line of the divide is marked by the belt of trees in which Upper Froyle shelters. Beyond, and across the Wey, rises the Greensand ridge, ancient woodland of which the royal forest of Alice Holt is a large remnant. The River Wey and the Farnham - Winchester road run parallel to and about half a mile south of Upper Froyle, which lies on a loop - road from the present highway.

The Pilgrim's Way from Winchester to Canterbury followed the left bank of the river between Alton and Farnham. The existing main road gives the impression of being of later date, or at least of following the lower track of the Way. Like a caravan route, the prehistoric trackways frequently consisted of a wide belt of thoroughfare, and there is evidence elsewhere that the Pilgrims' Way had winter and summer courses. Along most of its route it follows the divide of the Chalk and Greensand, the winter line being just on the Chalk, the summer route taking short cuts and a lower line across stretches of Greensand, which in winter tended to be of bad going. The "village street" of Upper Froyle, running, as it does, parallel to the main road, may represent the winter, and perhaps, older, line of the Way. In support of this it is suggestive that the churches of the three consecutive villages of Holybourne, Froyle and Bentley, all lie in a straight line running parallel to and about a quarter-mile north-westward of the main road. Holybourne and Bentley have developed "streets" along the existing summer route of the Way; Froyle has not. This part of the village is still ranged along the road past the church, following the geological divide but just on the Chalk. This line of the old Way can still be traced across the fields in prolongation of the village street, south-westwards by Bonham's Farm towards Holybourne, and north-eastwards towards Bentley by alternative routes past Coldrey and past Hussey's Farm. From Hussey's a branch track connects with the prehistoric Harrow Way (the "tin track" as it is called locally) from Salisbury Plain to the Channel ports via the Hog's Back, which the Pilgrim's Way joined at Farnham. Several old yew trees, a characteristic feature of the Pilgrim's Way, stand beside the road in Upper Froyle, which, a backwater as it is today, may thus be regarded as in origin a wayside settlement owing its form and its position to traffic along the lower slope of the Chalk in early periods.

This characteristic also holds good of Lower Froyle, an offshoot of the village, not, as in the case of its neighbours, on the pilgrims summer route, but along a spur-road northwards across the downs towards Odiham. Spread along a wide combe, a mile and a half north of the church, the lower village comprises many of the most picturesque and ancient tenements in the parish.

Like so many Hampshire manors, Froyle (as it was spelt in Domesday) was Winchester Church land. Edward the Confessor had given it to the nuns of St. Mary's Abbey, a connection perpetuated by the dedication of the church to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin; and the sub-manor of Coldrey, between Froyle and Bentley, belonged to the Bishop of Winchester, whose principal seat was, of course, Farnham Castle. At the dissolution of the monasteries the manor of Froyle was acquired by William Jephson, whose descendants till 1652 owned the Manor

Place which stands beside the church. Held for a few years by John and Robert Fiennes, they sold it in 1666 to Samuel Gauden of Lincoln's Inn Fields. From his descendants the Drapers, extinct in 1765, it passed to the Nicolas family, who parted with the property piecemeal between 1765-82 to Sir Thomas Miller, fifth baronet, the ancestor of the late Sir Hubert Miller, to whom Froyle owes so much of its charm today. Froyle Place is said to have been built in 1588, and it is, in the main, a gabled U-shaped Elizabethan manor house of the local clunch or hard chalk. A cellar at the north-west retains two fine Tudor doorways, and an adjacent quoin bears a consecration cross. Towards the end of the eighteenth century, probably when bought by the Millers, sash windows were inserted, and the principal rooms modernised in the Adam taste; in about 1865 and later, further and less attractive alterations were made, including that of the centre between the wings on the south-east front. More recently the gardens were laid out with uncommon charm, and attractive feature being a curving double border sunk between a convex terrace and a clipped yew hedge. The house contains Miller family portraits, several by Reynolds, Cotes and other good painters, going back to the first baronet, who was buried in Chichester Cathedral in 1705; also two outstanding landscapes by Smith of Chichester, and a magnificent Gaspar Poussin landscape. The present tenant is the Hon. Mrs. Milo Talbot.

Great events, like the main road, have by-passed Froyle, so that its history, lacking a Gilbert White, is that of the yeoman families whose names are still borne by many of their houses. Those of Froyle have left scanty records, but the village is fortunate in having a schoolmaster, Mr. T. Knight, who has searched them out. Nor are parochial records of local interest only; they are the microcosm of national history, particles in a greater design.

The tenement with the longest history in the village is that known since the thirteenth century as Hussey's in Lower Froyle. The "manor" of Hussey's is mentioned in 1262-63 as then acquired by Walter Hussey of his brother William; in 1336 and 1382 it was held by Nicolas Hussey. John Mott of Froyle, bequeathing money for candles to burn in the Easter Sepulchre in 1377, also deposed that Nicolas owed him £40. In 1414 the latter sold the property, which, for a time, became merged with the adjoining Coldrey Manor, but by 1639 had been acquired by the Jephsons of Froyle Place. They would seem to have leased it at about the same date to Henry Burningham, first recorded member of a family that ultimately attained squirehood in Froyle. The Husseys of Froyle were possibly connected with the South Harting family flourishing in Henry III's time. Parts of their house here may be incorporated in the existing building, timber framed with brick filling, of sixteenth-century date, with a rosy brick Georgian front probably added in 1764. By that date John Baldwin Burningham had probably bought the farm from the Froyle Place estate, the Georgian facade and the unusual group of four oast houses behind the house symbolising the prosperity of wheat and hops at that time. In 1820 Thomas Burningham moved to the more aristocratic air of Upper Froyle, where he reconstructed an earlier building in the classic taste and called it Froyle House, his descendants residing there until about 1895. There are at least eight Henry Burninghams buried in Froyle, the last in 1905. Mr. Knight has worked out a sinister discovery about them: in each case when there was a brother named John or Thomas the eldest son died young if his name was Henry. Hussey's has recently been restored by Lieutenant-Colonel Broke Grenville.

Froyle House, now the home of Captain Sir Hugh Smiley, Bt., is beyond Froyle Place, and, from the evidence of its cellars and some of its walls, was a considerable building in the seventeenth or early eighteenth century. It has not been possible to identify its earlier ownership with certainty, but it may be the property known as Catlees, after an occupier of about 1400, which belonged to the de Windsor family. In 1367 Richard de Windsor died seized of a virgate held of the Abbess of St. Mary's. Windsors were still here in 1550.

Another important property in the village was a sub-manor, held of the chief manor so early as 1363, by Sir John Brocas, a Buckinghamshire family owning estates round Alton till early Tudor times. Brocas Farm lies between Hussey's and Coldrey in Lower Froyle. A house, known as the Park in the eighteenth century, which lay on the other side of the church to the Manor Place, seems to have been a dower house and was retained by the Nicolas and Moody descendants of the Drapers after the sale of Froyle Place. It was pulled down in 1865. Opposite is the site of one of the prettiest cottages in Upper Froyle, now the Post Office and general shop. It was originally a smallholder's house adjacent to the former common, and is typical of the sixteenth and seventeenth century tradition of local building: timber frame with brick nogging and thatch, the later wing of clunch and brick. Opposite to it, Blunden's Farm is the early Tudor home of a yeoman farmer. A Blunden first appears in the church registers in 1737, the family surviving in Froyle till 1869 and still in the district.

Both these buildings, and the Mill House, a mile from the village on the River Wey bears evidence of the late Sir Hubert Miller's curious taste for perching the images of saints on his cottages. The Post Office has St. Hubert with his stag.

Silvester's Farm in Lower Froyle is a yeoman's beautiful little house, the first in the village to be re-built following the development of arable farming in the district. It took its existing form in 1674, according to a date let into its back elevation. This date presumably refers to the time when the wing was added at right angles to a timber-framed early Tudor house, then, or subsequently, hung with weather-tiling on its north and west sides and at the back faced

in stone. This use of stone - from a quarry beside the main road - and the whole character of the house, belong rather to the country across the Wey, with its geological affinities to Sussex, than to Froyle and North Hampshire : implying that the latter's tradition of brick building was not yet established. The 1674 wing has moulded brick window jambs and lintels, with stone mullions on the south and original wooden casements on the north. A Sylvester appears in the registers in 1670, and others of the name up till 1760 ; in 1800 Silvester's was one of Sir Thomas Miller's farms. It is now farmed by Mr. Kenneth Goschen.

There was a church in Froyle at *Domesday*, no doubt on the site of the existing one, beside the old Way, the chancel of which dates from about 1300. It has a fine Decorated east window, the tracery lights of which contain a notable display of contemporary heraldic glass, referring in particular to Edward I, his second Queen Margaret of France, Edward of Carnarvon and his connections by marriage - Humphry de Bohun and John de Warenne, Earl of Sussex. Its date must be between 1299 and 1307. The West Tower was built in 1722, of Crondall bricks, recalling in its design the Cromwellian brick tower of Crondall Church, Henry Burningham and John Baldwin being churchwardens. The nave, an oblong hall with a west gallery and cusped "Gothic" windows, is also brick and a renovation of 1812. The builders then were George Parfect of Headley, John Dyer of Alton, and George Beagley of Bentley. It cost £1,297 12s 6d., and was completed between February and September, a remarkable achievement. It was then recorded that the cost of restoring the old nave would cost nearly as much as building a new one. It is quite appropriate that a village, containing so much good eighteenth-century brick building, should have a church largely of that age and material too, and that the names of some of the builders should be preserved.

AN ENGLISH VILLAGE

FROYLE, HAMPSHIRE - II

*A Georgian village whose yeoman farmers charmingly re-housed themselves
on the profits of wheat and hops*

FROYLE'S name, the pundit's say, is derived from the old English *Freohyll* which may mean "the hill of Frea," the goddess commemorated in Friday. The upper and lower parts of the village are separated by a spur of the Downs, ending to the south in a hill now called Saintbury, which is, perhaps, how the nuns of Winchester christened Frea's Hill. The Pilgrim's Way, which here joins Upper and Lower Froyle, climbs over Saintbury's southward slope through a grove of beeches before meeting at right angles the lane up the valley towards Odiham on the other side of the Downs, along which Lower Froyle is spread.

The upper village has a nucleus formed by the church and Manor Place, and has contained several properties of such size as to have ranked as sub-manors at various times. Lower Froyle consists in a succession of yeomen's houses, mostly reconstructed about 1760, linked by thatched cottages of clunch and brick, some of them bearing dates between 1712 and 1737, the various holdings running back up the sides of the valley. This formation suggests a relatively late period of development, subsequent to the earliest enclosures and in contrast to the typical Saxon village grouped round a green and surrounded by the common fields. It is not unlikely that in the early Middle Ages much of the downland was sheep-walk. But by Charles II's time, when John Aubrey tells us that Farnham had become "the greatest market in England for wheat" Froyle farmers had long since turned over to arable. Another change since the Middle Ages, which undoubtedly contributed to Froyle's prosperity, was the cultivation of hops on the Greensand clay in the lower land. This largely took the place of the orchards to which there are medieval references. In 1236 the Abbess of St. Mary's, Winchester, who owned Froyle Place, sold three tuns of cider at Froyle for 21s; and in another year, out of four tuns made, two were retained by the abbess for "bever" on the manor - incidentally an interesting appearance of the term by which "elevenses" are still called in many parts. In 1800 there were 141 acres of hops in Froyle, and in 1855 a village directory states that "there are hop-yards on all the farms." Nearly each of them still has an oast, usually a single one, though Husseys has four, grouped rather unusually round a square central building. Hodges and Silvesters in Lower Froyle have single oasts. The higher hopfields have all been grubbed, but hops are still a considerable crop on the larger farms in the Wey Valley and Bonhams and Coldrey and Place Farm, now Froyle Manor, have large groups of oasts.

After about a century of high arable and hop profits the standard of living had risen to a degree when the timber-framed sixteenth century yeomen's houses ceased to suffice a community in which the farmer was called "gent" on his grave. A phase of almost universal re-building followed. Silvesters had been enlarged and re-faced in stone and weather-tiling in 1674. But other renovated farms of which the dates are ascertainable are after 1760, suggesting that it took three or four generations from the rise of high arable farming to change the yeoman into a small squire. The progress of several of these families can be traced. The Burningshams, who began as yeoman farmers at Husseys in about 1670, refaced it as a "manor house" in 1764, and joined Silvesters, Brocas, Rock House and other farms into a compact estate, then in about 1820 moved to Upper Froyle and converted another farm into the "gentleman's residence" of Froyle House. A Froyle yeoman family still farming actively is that of Mr. J.C. Messenger of Bonhams. Their name first appears in the registers of 1755, when Thomas Messenger lived at Heath's Farm in Upper Froyle, and was overseer of Yarnhams on the top of the Downs. The Heaths, who were Quakers, had recently vacated their old home for the larger Bonhams Farm, which Thomas Heath probably rebuilt in about 1730. The name Bonhams, like Yarnhams, is of Pre-Conquest origin.

Bonhams, visible from the Farnham - Alton road, is one of the most charming of the Froyle yeomen's houses. Actually it is in Holybourne parish on the southward edge of Froyle, and in the shrunken Hundred of Neatham - now represented by a mill on the Wey, but at the Conquest a royal manor possessed of a market, the Hundred comprising the whole of the later Alton and Selborne Hundreds, and originally the manor of Froyle itself.

To digress a moment from Froyle. The pre-Conquest importance of the now obscure Neatham, which both Edward the Confessor and the Conqueror thought worth keeping in their own hands, is probably accounted for by the presence there of a very large entrenched hill-top camp. This lies in the solemn recesses of Monks' Wood, where Herb Paris grows and Gilbert White found the wild hellebore, about a mile south of the Wey, the thick woodland making it hard to trace the full extent of the vallums. But from the way it stands up over the surrounding countryside, it was obviously a place of note in the early Saxon period when the Hundreds were demarcated, and so continued until after the Conquest, when its importance shifted to Alton, and the manor was given to Waverley Abbey, the fort, overgrown with trees, being remembered only as "the monks' wood." Somehow or other their tithes from Neatham and from Bonhams, the chief farm in the emaciated hundred, now go to the trustees of the Algebra Lecture at Cambridge.

Bonhams is E-shaped in plan, the entrance in the very narrow space between the wings, and, from the structure of the roof, is evidently a re-facing of an earlier building. The date 1617 occurs on a window-frame in the north wing, and may be its original date. The vermilion brick walls, the roof shot with golden lichen on the southern face, retain many of the original casements, though sashes were inserted in the windows of the principal rooms probably about 1790, when "Adam" fireplaces were installed in some of the rooms. The lack of any bell-cast in the slope of the roof makes the elevation a little clumsy, but the building as a whole is of great charm; a fine oak staircase and other details suggest an earlier date for the re-facing than most of the Georgian houses in Froyle, perhaps 1730-40.

Mr. Messenger has the old advertisement for the auction at the Swan Inn, Alton, on July 26th 1836, between three and five in the afternoon, "of the singularly eligible and compact capital residence, commanding noble and extensive views, for many years in the occupation of Mr. William Heath." Among the attractions were its being

bounded chiefly by a fine Trout stream called the Wey which runs through a considerable portion of the estate and the excellent game preserves of Sir T.C. Miller, Bt; . . . at a very convenient distance from the High Road from London to Southampton, to and from which Coaches pass day and night; . . . distant only a morning's drive from the Metropolis and other principal watering places.

The London-Alton coach was called *The Voice*, and it was scheduled to take just under six hours.

At the auction Bonhams was bought by Mr. Coldham Knight, banker of Farnham; a Messenger farmed it from West End, Bonhams being inhabited by labourers until the late Mrs. Messenger went into residence there and, in 1918, acquired the freehold.

Froyle Manor, alias West End and also Place Farm, adjoins the grounds of Froyle Place, and, although now a private residence, has a big group of oasts that exhale a drowsy perfume in September from the hops on west End Farm. The house, faced in early Georgian red brick, is a high, steeply roofed building the evolution of which is difficult to deduce; several of the rooms are panelled in bolection wainscot which, with the staircase, can scarcely be later than 1730. William Draper succeeded Gauden Draper as squire at Froyle Place in 1710: a big improvement of the home farmhouse may have been undertaken at that date, possibly to convert it into a dower house. An unusual feature of the staircase is the decoration of the under surface of the upper flight with crudely painted landscapes, recalling distantly the king of grisaille scenes introduced by Thornhill in some of the lower surfaces of his painted hall and staircase at Stoke Edith, circa 1725. The house is now the home of the Hon. Geoffrey Parsons.

William Draper of Froyle Place, whose family had inherited it from the Gaudens, died in 1765, and his heirs were duly fined £5 for failing to bury him in woollens, according to the statute not repealed until 1814. A contributory factor to the outburst of building after 1760 may have been the break-up of the Froyle Place estate towards the end of his life. The Burningshams re-fronted Husseys in 1764, and Hodges, in Lower Froyle, is dated 1766. Its front to the road, added to a sixteenth-century house, is the most accomplished piece of brick building in the village. The front rooms and a roomy staircase hall are plainly wainscoted. There is record of a Richard Hodges in 1657, but it is doubtful what family was living there at the time of the re-building. The house was carefully repaired by Professor W.G. Constable, and is now the residence of Mrs. R.E. Moore.

Another Georgianised farm is Brocas in Lower Froyle, commemorating a medieval tenure in its name. The re-building was probably due to Joseph Tarrant, living here in 1750, or James, his son, who married Ann Westbrook in 1777. A century previously Newmans were living at Brocas. The family still farms actively in the district, and in Froyle is probably commemorated by a holding now called Nomansland; "Newmans Land" is referred to in 1751, and William Newman of Froyle was a magistrate in 1784. The Westbrook family, probably deriving their name from the manor of Alton Westbrook, have been in Lower Froyle since at least 1653, and are farming there still. The Brownjohn family, now farmers and general store-keepers, appear in 1729. Clunch and brick-built houses in Lower Froyle bear the following dates and initials:-

E.&R.K. 1712 R.C. 1719

T.&W.C. 1724 A.C. 1737 , but it has not been possible to identify the persons commemorated.

An important property adjoining Lower Froyle is Coldrey. Like Bonhams at the other end of the parish, it is actually outside its boundaries, having always been "extra parochial," and, indeed, erected into a parish of its own in 1860, though there is no sign of a church, and is now incorporated in Bentley parish. The manor was the Bishop of Winchester's, but always leased to tenants. Though the East front, visible from the main road, is a charming late Georgian facade - one of the latest re-frontings in Froyle - a wing, running at right angles to it, containing the present entrance, is very much earlier. The doorway may be of circa 1550, the staircase beyond, about 1700, and the great open fireplace, in what was probably the kitchen, cannot be much later than 1550, possibly a century earlier. The builder seems to have been anxious about the wide span of the opening; not only did he incorporate the customary relieving arch above it, but the wooden beams introduced below and above the relieving arch appear to be in the

nature of ties or “chimney bars,” designed to divert weight from the main arch.

In the fourteenth century Coldrey was held by the Colrithe family, the names being evidently connected. A daughter took it to the Holts, Thomas Holt of Coldrey dying in 1458. His heiress married Edward Berkeley, whose daughter, Laura, brought it to Lord Mountjoy. In Henry VIII’s reign William Lord Mountjoy sold the manor to William Lyster, who died in 1553, his son selling it to John Lighe, Esq., in 1557. Lighe, or Leigh, may well have built the old part of the house and was buried in Froyle Church in 1557, and his descendants retained Coldrey till 1629, when Thomas Leigh sold the property to Sir Humphrey May. Thenceforward local yeoman families were in possession, probably as tenant farmers; an Eggar, now squires of Bentley, in 1683; Robert Baldwin of Coldrey died in 1729; and in 1756 Thomas Rothwell of Coldrey married Elizabeth Burningham of Husseys. The front room may be as late as about 1815; the principal rooms were rather charmingly re-decorated in the style of that period. By 1850 it was being farmed by Mrs. Harriet Lee, in 1939 Colonel Nigel Duncan, whose family had owned Coldrey for two generations, sold the property to Mr. C. Mann, who has recently made considerable alterations. Coldrey lies off the main Farnham - Alton road, where the lane from Binsted and Isington bridge to Odiham via Lower Froyle crosses it. Following the main road towards Alton, Highway House (Mrs. Linzee) stands back on the right, The “Highways Farm” of eighteenth-century records re-built from designs by Mr. Walter Sarrel.

Beyond the dip in the road called Quarry Bottom, from which the grey sandstone used in the village came, is Shrubbery House, the home of the late Sir Hubert Miller, Bt., of Froyle. Originally a cottage or small farm, a delightful addition was made to it, at right angles to the road, in mid-Georgian times. This front, the only instance of bay windows in Froyle, no doubt originally had the front door in the centre of it. Considerable additions were made by Sir Hubert Miller, who has also laid out charming gardens sloping to the Wey, which here runs at the bottom of a picturesque valley. A little further on is the Hen and Chicken Inn, on the corner of the turning to Upper Froyle. It is an attractive, little altered, brick Georgian house, with posting stables at the back, the doorway of which is similar to that of Hodges, indicating a date of building about 1765. The inn is first referred to in 1767, after which the parish records contain periodic references such as:-

		s	d
1772	Spent at Parish Meeting at the Hen & Chicken Sugar, tea and a jugg	18	0

Such items are in contrast to usage in neighbouring Bentley, where relief was refused in 1774 to any of the poor who drank tea or frequented the public-house. Other items of interest are:-

		£	s	d
1767	1lb of hops for the Parish beer			8
1769	Beer at Sarah Hawkins funeral as was forgot to be charged		2	8
1771	5½ ells of hop bagging to make Jas. Newman a bed		4	1½
1773	Catching sparrows		1	0
	Making a frock and shirt		1	4
1775	Thomas Newman by order at church for inoculation himself & family (During an epidemic of small-pox 1774-77)	2	2	0
1780	Paid for a spinning wheel for Robert Blunden’s daughter		2	0

The house in the upper village known as Froyle Cottage was the Dame’s School for Upper Froyle until 1868. Internal fittings of the house point to a date about 1790 for its construction, and a largish room projecting at right angles might have been a schoolroom. It is certainly in contrast to the present Church school, in the thirteenth-century style, completed in 1868, which is frequently mistaken by visitors for the church. The vicarage, next door to it, is a larger version of Froyle Cottage tacked on to an earlier building of sixteenth-century origin. It is a rambling, homely, gentlemanly house, with large stables, eloquent of the days described by Parson Woodford, where the Rev. Richard Follen (1773) was vicar for 30 years, to be followed in 1804 till 1864 by the Rev., afterwards Sir, Thomas Combe Miller, both of whom employed curates who lived in the vicarage. During the Rev. Sir Thomas’s incumbency Anglicanism was enforced by his double authority of parson and squire, though it is perhaps significant that, in spite of this, a Wesleyan meeting-house was built in Lower Froyle in 1841, still in the Georgian tradition of clunch and brick. Indeed, in this village of Georgian England, nurtured by corn and hops on a Saxon highway, almost the only later imprint is the eddy of the Oxford Movement, that has embellished its cottages with a hierarchy of saints. Perhaps the genius of Saintbury is to be traced in this, still seeking to efface the memory of Frea’s Hill in Froyle.